

I would like to object to the use of cell phones on aircraft. Flying on airplanes is stressful for many people. The combination of: fear of flyiing, confined space and cell phones is a recipe for conflict. The argument that these individuals need to make important calls does not hold true. If calls were so important, the use of airphones would not be where it is today, so low that they are being taken out of seats. In my last 1000 flights I believe I have seen a phone used exactly once.

As an RF engineer, I would also like to provide a technical comment.

I have witnessed firsthand interference caused by two way radios in an aircraft simulator. Transmitting on the radio within several feet of the simulator caused the control stick to twitch. Repeating the same inside the cockpit caused the stick to slam forward.

While I appreciate that cell phones have less power, I also know that malfunctions can cause this to change. A large spike from a phone could have a catostrophic effect. It does not seem worth risking this so that somebody can save money (cell phone vs airphone)